

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2195
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2002
ASIATIC LION RE INTRODUCTION PROJECT
DALPAT SINGH PARASTE;JAYASHREE BANERJEE

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the ambitious Rs. 68 core Asiatic Lion Re-introduction Project which seeks to develop an alternate habitat for the lions at Palpur Kuno Sanctuary in Shivpuri district of Madhya Pradesh has been suffering from uncertainties;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Phase I of the project was supposed to be completed by 2001;
- (d) if so, the details regarding the progress made so far; and
- (e) the steps taken to complete the project expeditiously?

Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c), (d) & (e) : In the first phase 8 villages with 663 families were to be relocated outside Kuno-Palpur Sanctuary. As against this, 18 villages with 1400 families have already been moved out of the Sanctuary. There are reports about the habitat condition and prey base improving after the relocation of the villages. Meadows have been formed in place of agriculture fields. Not much progress has been made on logistic and manpower due to financial constraints.